

9 ~~12~~ (Amended) The currency authenticator of claim [11] 1 further

2 comprising means for determining the denomination of said bill to be authenticated

and wherein said means for selecting one of said plurality of sensitivity settings

4 selects said one of said plurality of sensitivity settings based on the determined

denomination of said bill; wherein said means for selecting one of said plurality of

6 sensitivity settings selects a lower sensitivity setting when said bill is determined to be

of a lower denomination and a higher sensitivity setting when said bill is determined

8 to be of a higher denomination.

18. (Amended) A currency authenticator having a plurality of

2 sensitivity settings comprising:

a first characteristic detector retrieving first characteristic information from a

4 bill to be authenticated and generating an output signal;

means for determining the denomination of said bill to be authenticated;

6 means for selecting one of a plurality of sensitivity settings, said means for

selecting one of said plurality of sensitivity settings selecting said one of said plurality

8 of sensitivity settings based on the determined denomination of said bill;

means for storing reference information associated with each of said

10 sensitivity settings;

means for comparing said output signal to said reference information

12 associated with the one of said plurality of sensitivity settings selected by said means

for selecting; said means for comparing indicating that said bill is counterfeit if said

14 output signal does not satisfactorily compare with said reference information;

wherein said means for selecting one of said plurality of sensitivity settings

16 selects a lower sensitivity setting when said bill is determined to be of a lower
denomination and a higher sensitivity setting when said bill is determined to be of a
18 higher denomination.

19 ~~22~~ (Amended) The currency authenticator of claim [21] ~~20~~ ¹⁸ further

2 comprising means for the operator of the authenticator to indicate the denomination of
the bill to be authenticated and wherein said means for assigning a sensitivity setting
4 to each of said plurality of denominations permits an operator of the authenticator to
independently assign a sensitivity setting to each of said plurality of denominations
6 and wherein said means for selecting selects said one of said plurality of sensitivity
settings to be the sensitivity setting assigned to the indicated denomination.

24 ~~31~~ (Amended) The currency device of claim [30] ~~24~~ ²⁰ further comprising

2 means for the operator of the device to indicate the denomination of the bill and
means for assigning a sensitivity setting to each of a plurality of denominations and
4 wherein said means for assigning a sensitivity setting to each of said plurality
of denominations permits an operator of the device to independently assign a
6 sensitivity setting to each of said plurality of denominations and wherein said means
for selecting selects said one of said plurality of sensitivity settings to be the
8 sensitivity setting assigned to the indicated denomination.

15 ~~37~~ (New) The currency authenticator of claim 1 further comprising means

2 for determining the denomination of said bill to be authenticated and wherein said

means for comparing compares the output signal to the reference information

- 4 corresponding to the determined denomination and the selected sensitivity setting.

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~~38~~ (New) The currency authenticator of claim 1 further comprising means

- 2 for the operator to indicate the denomination of the bill to be authenticated and
wherein said means for comparing compares the output signal to the reference

- 4 information corresponding to the indicated denomination and the selected sensitivity
setting.

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~~39~~ (New) The currency device of claim ~~24~~ further comprising means for

- 2 determining the denomination of the bill and wherein said means for comparing
compares the output signal to the reference information corresponding to the

- 4 determined denomination and the selected sensitivity setting.

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~~40~~ (New) The currency device of claim ~~24~~ further comprising means for

- 2 the operator to indicate the denomination of the bill and wherein said means for
comparing compares the output signal to the reference information corresponding to

- 4 the indicated denomination and the selected sensitivity setting.

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~~41~~ (New) A method of authenticating a currency bill having an

- 2 undetermined denomination using a currency authenticator, the method comprising
the steps of:

4 scanning a currency bill to determine a scanned authentication value
associated with a selected authentication attribute of the currency bill;
6 determining the denomination of the currency bill;
selecting one of a plurality of authentication sensitivity levels associated with
8 the selected authentication attribute;
selecting a reference authentication value based on the determined
10 denomination of the currency bill and the selected sensitivity level, each of the
plurality of authentication sensitivity levels having a reference value associated with
12 each of a plurality of denominations stored in a memory of the currency authenticator;
and
14 authenticating the currency bill by comparing the scanned value to the selected
reference value.

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~~42~~ (New) A method of authenticating a currency bill having an
2 undetermined denomination using a currency authenticator, the method comprising
the steps of:
4 scanning a currency bill to determine a scanned authentication value
associated with a selected authentication attribute of the currency bill;
6 the operator indicating the denomination of the currency bill;
selecting one of a plurality of authentication sensitivity levels associated with
8 the selected authentication attribute;
selecting a reference authentication value based on the indicated denomination
10 of the currency bill and the selected sensitivity level, each of the plurality of

authentication sensitivity levels having a reference value associated with each of a
12 plurality of denominations stored in a memory of the currency authenticator; and
authenticating the currency bill by comparing the scanned value to the selected
14 reference value.

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43 (New) A method of authenticating currency using a currency
2 authenticator having a plurality of sensitivity settings comprising:
retrieving first characteristic information from a bill to be authenticated using
4 a first characteristic detector and generating an output signal;
selecting one of a plurality of sensitivity settings;
6 comparing the output signal to reference information associated with the
selected sensitivity setting, the reference information being stored in a memory of the
8 authenticator, the memory storing reference information associated with each of the
sensitivity settings for each of a plurality of denominations; and
10 indicating that the bill is counterfeit if the output signal does not satisfactorily
compare with the reference information.

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44 29 (New) The method of claim 42 further comprising the step of the
2 operator indicating the denomination of the bill and wherein the step of selecting one
of the sensitivity settings comprises the authenticator selecting a sensitivity setting
4 based on the denomination indicated by the operator.
